

# The Lancaster News.

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LANCASTER, S. C., JULY 17, 1909.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## FEARFUL AUTO ACCIDENT.

**Two Killed and Several Injured, Two Fatally. Gasoline Tank Ripped Open, Throwing Blazing Oil on Occupants of Automobile.**

Sylvania, Ga., July 14.—Two persons are dead, two mortally injured, while three others are more or less seriously hurt as the result of an explosion of the gasoline tank on the touring car of George M. Hill, late last night at Jacksonboro bridge, five miles from this place. The dead: Howlett Hill, Miss Fannie Mills.

The fatally injured: George M. Hill, Jr., twin brother of Howlett Hill; Mrs. George M. Hill.

The seriously injured: Miss Rubie Thomas, badly burned; George M. Hill, severely burned about head and trunk; Miss Lurline Cooper, severely burned; George Hilton, aged 15, painfully burned.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill had taken a party of young people for a moonlight outing. While preparing to leave for town the car was backed into the bridge, the tank containing compressed gasoline being ripped off. The fluid was thrown over the occupants and flames quickly spread, covering the entire party.

The clothing of the two infants and the women was almost entirely consumed. Several youths gave such aid as they could, but it was not until the shrieking women were dragged into the waters of the creek that the flames were extinguished.

## Big Power Plant in North Carolina Sold for a Million.

Charlotte, N. C., July 14.—The big hydro-electric power plant at Blewett's Falls, the property of the Rockingham Power company, was sold under the hammer today at Wadesboro by order of the federal court. D. H. Thomas, representing the bondholders, was the only bidder, securing the property for \$1,000,000. Over twice that amount has been spent on the development, and half the amount paid will be necessary to complete the project which will develop 30,000 horse power. The sale was upon application of the S. Morgan Smith company, who hold a claim of \$83,000 for machinery.

## Georgia Senate Passes Bill Making Defamation of Women a Prison Offense.

Atlanta, Ga., July 15.—The penitentiary stares scandal-mongers in the face now. The Georgia senate passed a bill today making it a penal offense to utter any false or defamatory remark about a woman. Heretofore the women defamed had no recourse except in the civil courts. But the McCurry bill changes all that and will, it is believed, put a bridle on scandalous tongues. It was not passed without long debate, many senators believing it impaired right of free speech.

## North Carolina Lad Killed by Lightning.

Hendersonville, N. C., special in Charlotte Observer, July 14: Joe D. Heaton, 12 years old, was struck and instantly killed by lightning here this morning at 11 o'clock. Young Heaton is the son of Jim Heaton, and was well known in this city. One or two black spots on the body are the only marks of the terrible death. He had a basket of vegetables in his hand at the time he was struck and they were scattered to the wind.

## THE BARON ROTHSCHILD DEAD

**Son of Wealthy Austrian Said to Have Shot Himself.**

Vienna, July 14.—Baron Oskar Rothschild, youngest son of Albert Rothschild, head of the Austrian branch of the Rothschild house, died suddenly in this city last night. He committed suicide, it is reported, by shooting in his father's palace, because of an unfortunate love affair. Baron Oskar was 21 years old. He returned to Austria a few days ago after eight months spent in travel, during which he visited the United States.

The Rothschild family deny that Baron Oskar Rothschild committed suicide. They say that his death was caused by apoplexy.

## MANY FOUGHT BUT FEW HURT

**Fifty Men Wounded in Gun Fight and Only Three Seriously.**

Pittsburg, Penn., July 15.—A pitched gun battle in which 50 men were wounded, two seriously and one probably fatally shot, and the Chief of Police, Carroll of the township, received dangerous stab wounds, was fought outside the plant of the Pressed Steel car works this afternoon, when a squad of 40 police attempted to escort strikebreaking workmen through a mob of 1,000 men and women.

## Woman Pays \$525 For Cat.

New York, July 14.—Mrs. Lynas, of Chicago, has purchased the champion male Chinchilla Persian cat of England, Rob Roy 11, for \$525, according to a cable dispatch from London. This is the highest price that is known to have ever been paid for a cat.

## Death of Mr. John Williams, of Dixie.

Mr. John W. Williams, one of the county's oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, died Thursday afternoon at his home in the Dixie section. He was a man of sterling integrity of character and enjoyed the unbounded confidence of all who knew him. He was about 75 years of age, and had been in feeble health for a long time. He was a Confederate veteran and made a good record as a soldier. He was a member of the 12th S. C. regiment.

Mr. Williams was a consistent member of Union Baptist church. He was twice married, and is survived by his second wife, who was a Miss Carnes. The remains were buried at Union church yesterday.

## Mysterious Shooting in Aiken.

Aiken special in yesterday's Columbia State: Early this morning Edgar L. Shealey, a prominent young man of this city, was shot in his room at the home of Misses Reynolds and McGhee, where he boarded, on York street. He was shot once with a pistol, and the ball entered his thigh and lodged. His wound is not thought to be serious, but it is exceedingly painful. The shooting is one of the greatest mysteries this city has ever witnessed, and neither the police, Mr. Shealey, nor the ladies of the house can offer a satisfactory reason or solution of it.

Cotton for fall delivery has declined half a cent in the last two or three days. 12.90 cents is now offered here for spots.

## ENOCH ARDEN AS RESCUER.

**Returns to Aid Re-wedded Wife After Absence of 21 Years.**

Wilkesbarre, Pa., July 15.—A new role for an Enoch Arden was created today by the Rev. John Taggart, who returned after being considered dead for 21 years, in order to aid his wife. Taggart, was in the winter of 1887, an active preacher of the Methodist Episcopal church at Bloomsburg, and he married there Elizabeth Ivey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Ivey. A son was born to them the following year, and a few weeks after the birth Taggart disappeared.

His wife finally heard he had been drowned in the Johnstown flood, and in June, 1892, she wedded Samuel Van Horn, of Bloomsburg. Two children were born to them and lately they have been living in Hemlock township, Columbia county. A few months ago Van Horn was arrested and has since been in jail. Yesterday Taggart turned up. He told his wife that he had heard she was in trouble and had returned to take her and her children away to some part of the country where they could begin life anew.

He said he did not know why he went away; that he had lost control of himself, and when he had finally regained his senses he learned that she was married, and he decided to remain away. He has been all over the country, he said, and would not have returned had he not learned his wife was in trouble. The wife agreed to go away with him and Van Horn, who was consulted in jail today, said he would not try to stop them.

## FIVE SISTERS WED BROTHERS.

**Brides Attended by Sisters, and Best Men are Bridegrooms' Brothers.**

Columbus, Ky., July 14.—More than 50 immediate relatives of the brides and bridegrooms were in attendance today at the marriage ceremony in Kent county, across the river, which united five sisters to five brothers.

Misses Maud, Nellie, Kate, Anna and Susie Martin were married to John, Dan, Hugh, Jack and Dick Hill. Five sisters acted as bridesmaids, and five brothers of the bridegrooms acted as best men. Mothers, grandmothers, fathers, grandfathers, nieces, nephews, granddaughters and grandsons were present, in addition to numerous cousins, aunts, uncles, friends and relatives of the brides and bridegrooms.

## Suicide at the Morris Island Light House.

Charleston special in yesterday's Columbia State: Ludwig Jacobson, second assistant keeper of the Morris Island light house, committed suicide this afternoon, rather than be arrested to answer the charge of attempting to chloroform the daughter of another keeper of the light house early this morning.

## Depot at Yorkville Burned.

The depot at Yorkville of the Carolina & Northwestern railroad was destroyed by fire about 1 o'clock Thursday morning. The fire started in the freight room, but its origin is unknown.

Miss Pearl McManus gave a reception Thursday night complimentary to the young ladies visiting her, Misses Louise Oakes, Dorrie Counts and Louise Harris.

## COUNTY DEBTS GROW RAPIDLY

**Comptroller General Says People Do Not Realize The Conditions.**

Columbia Special in the Charleston Post:

"A classified statement of bonded indebtedness by counties would startle the people of this State into a realization of a most serious state of affairs that exists from one end of the state to the other," said Comptroller General Jones today. "Few people realize how steadily and rapidly this indebtedness is climbing up. I really can form no accurate conception of the true facts myself, but I know that it has climbed to an alarming degree, and the situation is getting worse steadily. Probably the most serious part of this business is the way the debts of the counties are piling up. A county will get behind with a floating debt on its hands, and the next thing we hear of is that the county's delegation is down here with a scheme to dispose of this indebtedness with bonds. I know of one county that has had its bonded debt increased to about \$300,000 within recent years.

"This office has had in view the work of compiling a statement of this bonded condition for some time, but this would require a great amount of work, the sending of a special man out over the State as well as almost endless work in the office, and we simply have never gotten to it, and probably never will. The Legislature does not give us sufficient office force.

"People wonder that a county treasurer occasionally gets mixed up in his accounts and goes short. It's a wonder to me that more of them don't get into trouble. The system of bookkeeping has been so complicated by the requirements of the Legislature, until I am expecting somebody in the next Legislature to advocate the appointment of a State auditor to do nothing but look after this sort of offices.

"School districts have gone mad issuing bonds for special school purposes. There are over fifty new ones this year. The treasurer is required to keep each of these separate and the dog and poll tax collected in each district separate. Why, a man paying his tax from any part of the county may elect under the law to have his taxes go to any school district he may name, or even to any special school."

Mr. Jones relates an amusing illustration of such a complication in his own experience in Abbeville county. His farm which is split almost in the center by the Seaboard road, is sliced by four school districts from different sides, each running down on his farm to take in a slice of the Seaboard so as to get part of the taxes the road pays.

## Price of Wheat Jumps up Again.

Chicago, July 14.—Wheat for July delivery advanced 7 cents, to \$1.27, a bushel during a stormy session on the board of trade today, establishing a new high record for the season and giving promise of repetition of the recent "deal" headed by James A. Patten and his colleagues in the May option.

The immediate cause of the buying flurry was additional rainfall last night in Kansas and Missouri, where the new crop of wheat is now harvesting or is awaiting the thresher, and dispatches from other harvesting and wheat shipping regions, telling of damage to the new crop by excessive rains.

## HEAVY TAX ON DOGS.

**Bill in the Georgia Legislature Places the License at \$2.50.**

Atlanta, Ga., July 14.—Any Georgian who wants to keep a dog after September 1 will have to pay the State \$2.50 for the privilege, if a bill introduced in the House to-day passes. Since Georgia is financially embarrassed, any plan for increasing the revenue is hailed with delight. The bill provides that township constables shall not only kill all unlicensed pups but bury them "under at least two feet of earth."

Dogs under three months of age are exempt. The author says frankly that the State must have the money now that the liquor revenue is no more and that dogs are a luxury anyhow.

## SHOOTING AFFRAY AT SUMTER.

**Eugene Petit Seriously Wounded by Joe L. Wells.**

Sumter special in the News and Courier, July 14: As the result of a quarrel last night which was renewed this morning, Joe L. Wells, who runs a small store near the depot, shot and seriously wounded Eugene Petit. It seems that yesterday Wells used some profane language in his store which could be heard by Mrs. Petit at her home across the street. She protested to Mr. Wells, but he would not quit, it is alleged, and when Mr. Petit returned from work she told him of it. He went to the store to see Wells and the quarrel ensued. This morning it was renewed and Wells shot Petit in the right breast just below the liver. The attending physicians are unable to state just how serious Mr. Petit's wound is as yet, and Wells is being held awaiting the results.

## OBJECT TO NEGRO TOWN.

**Oxford, Alabama, Would Destroy Suburb's Autonomy.**

Oxford, Ala., July 14.—Objecting to the existence of Hobson City, the only exclusively negro town in the United States, the authorities of Oxford have prepared a bill which they hope to have passed at the approaching session of the Legislature, which will effectively destroy the autonomy of the negro-officered and negro populated suburb. A law authorizing the annexation was passed at the last session, but was subsequently declared unconstitutional.

## Virginia Capes Swept by Severe Storm.

Norfolk, Va., July 14.—A terrific electric storm passed over the Cape Henry, Lynnhaven and Virginia beach sections late today cutting off communication for a time. The storm is reported from the Virginia capes to have been the severest known there in recent years. It was accompanied by a heavy rainfall. Damage reports are not in.

## Dies from Sticking Nail in His Foot.

Milledgeville, Ga., July 15.—Result of sticking a nail in his foot Monday afternoon developing blood poison, Henry Kidd, 14-year-old son of J. E. Kidd, one of the most prominent citizens of the city, died at an early hour this morning.

In an effort to save his life amputation was resorted to last night, but despite every energy, the lad succumbed.

## KILLS TWO AND HIMSELF.

**Negro Man Loads up on a So-Called Prohibition Beverage and Shoots His Wife and Brother-in-Law and Then Turns Pistol on Himself.**

Wilmington, July 14.—A special to The Star from Burgaw, says that early today Walter Williams, colored, 35 years old, living near that place, shot and instantly killed Henry Hayes, his brother-in-law; his wife, Mary Williams, and then himself.

Williams and his wife had not lived happily and three weeks ago agreed on peaceful separation after dividing their personal effects, the man leaving for Georgetown, S. C.

He returned Sunday, however, and attempted a reconciliation, and upon its failure this morning, tanked up on a so-called prohibition beverage and repaired to a brickyard, where his brother-in-law was at work and fired upon him, killing him instantly. Then going to the home of his wife he shot her to death through the right breast. Reloading his gun he emptied the contents of both barrels into himself, dying two hours later.

Williams charged his brother-in-law with undue interference in his domestic affairs.

## Strike of Hospital Nurses in Atlanta Ended.

Atlanta, Ga., July 14.—The strike of the 24 pretty nurses at the Presbyterian hospital is over. It was "compromised," as one of the soft-voiced strikers explained, by the nurses returning to work under the old terms and conditions. That is, 21 of them were willing to, but the hospital authorities told them to "pack their clothes and go."

The young women claimed that they were overworked and underfed and that there was another reason which was worse than both the others. What this reason was they have not revealed. Anyway the nurses borrowed from other hospitals have been returned and peace reigns over the Presbyterian hospital.

## North Carolinian Killed by Lightning. Was Under Tree.

Rutherfordton, N. C., special in Charlotte Observer, July 14: Mr. Julius Gardner, a good citizen who resides near the Southern depot at this place, while on his way home today from Polk county with a load of timber, was killed by lightning during a thunderstorm. The accident occurred about noon while Mr. Gardner was standing under a tree to get out of the rain, having left his team in the road. He is a native of Yancey county, but has resided here for some time. He is survived by a wife and one small child. His body was brought to town this afternoon.

## Trust Officer Lodged in New Orleans Jail.

New Orleans, July 14.—Wyatt H. Ingram, Jr., trust officer of the Hibernia Bank and Trust company of New Orleans, was arrested at his home, 1840 State street, shortly before 6 o'clock this evening on the charge of being a defaulter and forger. It is alleged that he is between \$75,000 and \$100,000 short in his accounts.

It is declared that Ingram's defalcations have extended over a period of 15 months.